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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/050,661	01/16/2002	Jianhua Fan		6030

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Jianhua Fan
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NASHVILLE, TN 37209

EXAMINER

CHIN, RANDALL E

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1744

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/050,661

Applicant(s)

FAN, JIANHUA

Examiner

Randall Chin

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. An examination of this application reveals that applicant is unfamiliar with patent prosecution procedure. While an inventor may prosecute the application, lack of skill in this field usually acts as a liability in affording the maximum protection for the invention disclosed. Applicant is advised to secure the services of a registered patent attorney or agent to prosecute the application, since the value of a patent is largely dependent upon skilled preparation and prosecution. The Office cannot aid in selecting an attorney or agent.

Applicant is advised of the availability of the publication "Attorneys and Agents Registered to Practice Before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office." This publication is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election of Figs. 1-8, claims 1-6 in the reply filed on December 1, 2003 and September 14, 2004 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Specification

3. 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, requires the specification to be written in "full, clear, concise, and exact terms." The specification is replete with terms which are not

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grammatically clear, concise and exact. The specification should be revised carefully in order to comply with 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Applicant's cooperation is respectfully requested in clarifying all errors upon reviewing the application.

Examples of some unclear, inexact or verbose terms used in the specification

are: On p. 1, line 12, "exinting" is misspelled.

On p. 1, line 16, "squeeze" should read --squeezes--.

On p. 2, lines 2 and 6, "a easy" should read --an easy--.

On p. 2, line 12, "made the extended arm" does not make sense and is awkwardly written.

On p. 2, line 19, "control" (second occurrence) should read --controls-- for clarity.

On p. 3, line 4, "shaped" should read --shaped--.

On p. 3, line 19, "one hand hold the twisting handle" is awkwardly written and grammatically incorrect.

On p. 4, line 16, reference to Figure 7, "a enlarged" should read --an enlarged--.

On p. 5, line 2, "a easy" should read --an easy--.

On p. 6, line 3, after "while", insert --a--.

On p. 6, line 9, "twinting" should read --twisting--.

On p. 7, line 2, "includes" should read --include--.

On p. 7, line 5, "hadle" should read --handle--.

On p. 8, line 15, "the sleeve 40 been pulled up and hold by the holder 24" is awkwardly written.

On p. 8, line 23, after "invention", insert --the--.

Again, the above cited errors are only a few examples and Applicant's cooperation is respectfully requested in clarifying all errors upon reviewing the application.

Drawings

4. The drawings are objected to because Figure 5 includes no reference numerals 22 and 24 which has been referred to in the specification at p. 7, lines 12-13 with reference to Figure 5.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

5. Claims 1-6 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The claims are replete with indefinite and functional or operational language.

The structure which goes to make up the device must be clearly and positively specified. Note the format of the claims in the patent(s) cited.

It is suggested to change "upper portion" to —upper handle—and "lower portion" to —lower handle—for consistency with the specification at all occurrences in the claims.

Claim 2 makes the claims vague since it is unclear where or what the "twisting part" is attached to.

Claim 3, line ,2 after "mass" (second occurrence), insert —of—. Also, it is unclear what the term "like" means in "sleeve like mass absorbent material." Such recitation makes the claim language awkward.

Claim 4, line 1, after "holder", insert —is--.

Claim 5, "a moving control" should be positively recited for completeness. On line 2, "the control button" lacks proper antecedent basis.

Claim 6, line 2, "the up end" lacks proper antecedent and also is an awkward recitation. On line 2, "being holded" is also grammatically awkward. It is also not exactly clear what the "rim" is as recited on line 1.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Moody '685.

Moody '685 teaches a mop comprising a long handle, the long handle having an upper portion 10 and a lower portion 15 and a bow portion merely defined by resilient bar 13, and a mass of absorbent material (not labeled) being fixed on the lower end of the lower portion 15 (Fig. 1).

As for claim 2, the mop further has a twisting part 17 with an extension twisting handle 18.

As for claim 3, a sleeve like mass absorbent material holder 14 holds one end of the mass of absorbent material.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 4-6 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims and rewritten to overcome the above cited claim objections.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Milward and Dingert are relevant to various twist mop configurations.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the Examiner should be directed to Randall Chin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1270. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the Examiner are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Robert Warden, can be reached at (571) 272-1281. The number for Technology Center 1700 is (571) 272-1700.

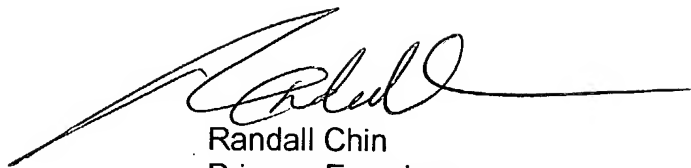
The central fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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R. Chin



Randall Chin
Primary Examiner
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